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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT
ELECTION OF CLAIMS

APPLICANT: Mindich, Alex DOCKET NO: P04,0019
SERIAL NO.: 10/782,655 ART UNIT: 3651
FILED: February 19, 2004 EXAMINER: Hess, Douglas A.
CONF. NO. 5514
TITLE: Prestressed Tubular Belt and Method for Making

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

10 Dear Sir:

This communication is in response to the Office Action on the above-identified case mailed February 11, 2005 requiring a restriction. The Examiner grouped the claims as follows:

Group I	claims 1-11	self closing belt; 198 (class), 819 (subclass)
Group II	claims 12-24	method and system for manufacturing a belt with predetermined stresses, 156 (class) 160 (subclass)
Group III	claims 25-26	method of manufacturing a prestressed belt via a winding on a mandrel, 156 (class) 189 (subclass)

15 Applicant elects the claims in Group I (claims 1-11), without traverse for the restriction on this group of claims.

Applicant does traverse the requirement that the Group II claims and Group III claims be in separate groups. These claims are both classified under class/subclass 156/60, and a search in these related subclasses would not be unduly burdensome on the Examiner. Therefore, the Applicant respectfully requests that the restriction requirement between the non-elected Group II and Group III claims be withdrawn.

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Respectfully submitted,

 (Reg. No. 45,877)

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to:
Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on March 11, 2005.


Mark Bergner Attorney for Applicants